

## Message Text

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ACTION AID-59

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-25 ISO-00 SWF-02 AGR-20 SCI-06 PC-10

USIA-15 IO-14 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 INT-08

COME-00 DRC-01 /182 W

----- 054858

R 171505Z JUN 74

FM AMEMBASSY NIAMEY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8114

INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

AMEMBASSY BAMAKO

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COTONOU

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY LOME

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAID NG

SUBJECT: NIGER DROUGHT RELIEF - GRAIN TRANSPORT

1. AT MEETING WITH MINISTER OF RURAL ECONOMY, ALI SAIBOU, JUNE 15, HE REPORTED ON HIS RECENT VISIT TO DAHOMEY TO CHECK INTO GRAIN TRANSPORTATION PROBLEMS AS FOLLOWS: SAIBOU SAID LAST WEEK'S TRIP TO DAHOMEY HAD BEEN USEFUL AND HE HOPED PRODUCTIVE. HE CLAIMED TO HAVE NEGOTIATED SUCCESSFULLY WITH TRUCKING COMPANIES IN NIGERIA AND TOGO TO LIFT NIGER GRAIN FROM COTONOU TO BIRNI N'KONNI AND INLAND THROUGH NIGERIA/SOKOTO ROUTE. THIS SHOULD GET UNDERWAY IN NEAR FUTURE AND HAD ADVANTAGE OF RELIEVING CONGESTION AT PARAKOU, AVOIDING WHAT HE DESCRIBED FROM PERSONAL INSPECTION AS VERY POOR ROAD FROM PARAKOU TO NIGER BORDER WHICH TRUCKERS UNDERSTANDABLY HESITATED TO USE AND OF DELIVERING

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GRING WITHIN NIGER TO POINTS OF GREATEST NEED.

2. SAIBOU ALSO LOOKED INTO QUESTION OF PARAKOU CONGESTION AND TRUCKING COMMITMENTS THERE. PROBLEM WAS NOT ENTIRELY SOLVED BUT BOTTLENECKS HAD BEEN REDUCED AND LAST FIGURE HE HAD (JUNE 13) WAS THAT 500 TONS HAD BEEN LIFTED PREVIOUS DAY. HOWEVER, SITUATION REQUIRED CONSTANT ATTENTION WHICH HE PLANNED TO GIVE IT.

3. AS FOR DISTRIBUTION WITHIN NIGER, SAIBOU HAD DECIDED TO ESTABLISH FOUR DELIVERY CENTERS WITHIN COUNTRY AT NIAMEY, DOSSO, MARADI AND ZINDER WHERE TRUCKS FROM SOUTH WOULD DEPOSIT THEIR LOADS. THIS DECISION TAKEN LARGELY IN ORDER TO REDUCE TURN AROUND TIME OF TRUCKS WHICH HAD PREVIOUSLY TRAVELLED FAR INLAND TO PLACES LIKE AGADEZ AND LOST CONSIDERABLE TIME RETURNING EMPTY. HE WAS CONFIDENT THAT STORAGE SPACE IN THESE FOUR CENTERS WAS ADEQUATE. WE REMINDED HIM TARPS WERE ON THE WAY AND HE WELCOMED THEM AS ADDED PROTECTION.

4. SAIBOU IS ALSO REVIEWING TRUCKING RESOURCES WITHIN COUNTRY FOR INLAND DISTRIBUTION FROM THESE FOUR CENTERS TO INSURE GRAIN MOVES OUT ON DAILY BASIS.

COMMENT: WE WILL ALSO BE LOOKING INTO STORAGE SITUATION AT FOUR CENTERS AND GRAIN MOVEMENT INLAND. END COMMENT.  
HECK

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** DISASTER RELIEF, GRAINS, DROUGHTS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
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**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
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